UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1995/86
9 June 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Substantive session of 1995
Geneva, 26 June-28 July 1995
Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda*

COORDINATION OF THE POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM: COORDINATED FOLLOW-UP BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESULTS OF MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ORGANIZED BY THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED FIELDS

Coordinated follow-up to major international conferences in the economic, social and related fields

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

The highlights of the report are as follows:

- As a starting-point, the report suggests that the major conferences should be viewed as a continuum that links the various dimensions of development within an integrated framework.

- The main thrust of the report is to suggest a coordinated approach to major conferences that would contribute to bringing greater coherence and integration to the development work of the United Nations system.

- A brief overview of the outcomes of six selected major conferences and an analysis of the related follow-up mechanisms in section I sets the stage for the identification of the main issues of coordination.

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- On the basis of an analysis of the conference results, the major themes that are common among them are identified (see table I). Sub-sets of actions under each theme are also indicated. These common themes could form the basis for developing common approaches, including data collection, monitoring and reporting at the country level.

- Elements of a coordinated approach are suggested in section III. The purpose here is not to propose new mechanisms but to establish linkages among existing ones, both at the country level and at the inter-agency and intergovernmental level, with a view to promoting programme harmonization and policy integration.

- At the country level, under the leadership of the resident coordinator system and taking into account the country strategy notes, where they exist, country teams or groups could be formed around common themes charged with developing common approaches and actions.

- The principles for system-wide division of labour developed under a reformed and strengthened ACC, together with the streamlined subsidiary machinery of ACC, provide a strong basis for inter-agency cooperation.

- At the intergovernmental level, the report suggests a number of arrangements and modalities for bringing greater focus to the work of the functional bodies dealing with conference follow-up, enhancing linkages among them and avoiding duplication of debates by suggesting that the Economic and Social Council play a more pro-active role in defining the issues for their consideration. It is also suggested that the Council could carry out a biennial thematic review of the cross-cutting and system-wide coordination issues and identify policy issues for consideration by the General Assembly.

- Some suggestions are advanced to streamline and rationalize the working methods of the Second and Third Committees to promote more focused thematic debates leading to more harmonized policy guidance.

- Finally, the report calls for renewed efforts for the mobilization of resources at the national and international levels as an essential component of not only a well-coordinated but a full and effective response to conference results.

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INTRODUCTION

A. Legislative background

1. By its decision 1995/204 of 10 February 1995, the Economic and Social Council decided that its coordination segment of 1995 should be devoted to the consideration of the following theme: "Coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system and implementation of the results of the major international conferences organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields". The present report is submitted in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 45/264.

2. In view of the importance of this issue, the Council decided, contrary to its practice in previous years, that only this single theme would be considered at its coordination segment of 1995. At the same time, the discussions during and outcome of the coordination segment would serve as input to the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly on an Agenda for Development, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 49/126. It may be recalled that in the report on an Agenda for Development (A/49/665), submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session, the Secretary-General had also called for the development of a common framework to follow up major United Nations conferences.

B. The challenge of global conferences

3. Although the convening of global conferences is a practice of long standing, new trends affecting their frequency and scope have emerged in the 1990s.

4. In recent years, conference activity has increased considerably, starting with the World Conference on Education for All in March 1990 through the World Summit for Social Development in March 1995 and continuing with planned conferences on women and human settlements. Several other possible conferences are now in their exploratory stages.

5. As for the scope of these conferences, a clear trend has emerged over the last five years of viewing the core issues on their respective agendas in a comprehensive context, reflecting a growing consensus in the international community on the integrated, holistic nature of economic and social progress and development. As the scope of these conferences and their outcomes has been progressively broadening, the relationships between them as well as the mechanisms for their follow-up have also become more complex.

6. When viewed in this perspective, the challenge posed by recent and forthcoming global conferences is to maintain a clear focus and awareness and momentum around the specific sets of issues which were at the core of each conference, while at the same time ensuring that these conferences together advance a comprehensive view of development. This objective is in turn advanced by ensuring that these conferences build on each other and by promoting coordinated follow-up at the national and regional as well as at inter-agency and intergovernmental levels in a way which optimizes effectiveness and enhances their individual as well as collective impact.

7. These challenges are all closely related, suggesting that these conferences should be seen as a continuum that links the different dimensions of development. While the present report mainly addresses the coordinated follow-up of major conferences, in doing so it also points a way towards bringing greater coherence and integration to the development work of the United Nations. Addressing the coordination issues arising in the context of conference follow-up activities could thus be seen as a step towards meeting this overarching challenge.

C. Scope of the report

8. In order to give this report a concrete basis for discussion, six recent conferences have been selected: (1) the World Summit for Children (WSC); (2) UNCTAD VIII: A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment; (3) the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED); (4) the World Conference on Human Rights (HR); (5) the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD); and (6) the World Summit for Social Development (WSSD).

9. This selection is by no means exhaustive and has been made for illustrative purposes only. None the less, these six conferences can be viewed as representative of those that have been held over the last five years in that they cover a wide range of issues in the economic, social and human rights-related fields. The fact that other recent conferences, such as those on the least developed countries, on small island developing States, on education for all, on nutrition, are not covered in this report does not imply that these are in any way less important or that their follow-up need not be coordinated. Quite the contrary, a meaningful coordinated approach must be relevant to all these conferences.

10. This report consists of three sections. The first section provides a brief review of the main conclusions of the six selected conferences and makes an attempt to identify a number of common themes among them. In addition, existing follow-up mechanisms to these conferences are also presented in the form of a table for ease of reference. In the following two sections the issues of coordination in the follow-up processes are analysed and some suggestions are made on how progress could be achieved towards a coordinated approach. Finally, a few concluding observations are made about the need for resource mobilization as an essential complement to coordination for the effective implementation of conference outcomes.

I. BRIEF REVIEW OF SELECTED RECENT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND FOLLOW-UP MECHANISMS

11. The following section does not provide an exhaustive review of the six conferences selected for this report. Rather, it serves as a reminder of the salient features of each conference and is meant to set the stage for identifying the common themes among them.

A. Six selected conferences

1. World Summit for Children

12. The World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990, adopted the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and a detailed Plan of Action for Implementing The World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s in order to reach ambitious but achievable goals by the year 2000.

13. Seven overall goals for the period 1990 to 2000 were adopted:

(a) A one third reduction in under-five death rates;

(b) A halving of maternal mortality rates;

(c) A halving of severe and moderate child malnutrition;

(d) Safe water and sanitation for all families;

(e) Basic education of all children and completion of primary education by at least 80 per cent (including equal educational opportunities for girls);

(f) A halving of the adult illiteracy rate;

(g) Protection for the many millions of children in especially difficult circumstances and observance, in all countries, of the recently adopted Convention on the Rights of the Child.

14. Other, more specific, goals were set for the same period concerning: (a) protecting girls and women; (b) nutrition; (c) child health; and (d) education.

2. UNCTAD VIII: The Cartagena Commitment

15. UNCTAD VIII was held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February 1992. Conscious of the growing interdependence of the community of nations, Member States agreed on a New Partnership for Development and committed themselves to making development the priority item in the agenda of the international community. Emphasis was placed on economic interdependence and the shared responsibility of all countries to take supportive action so as to make the international trading and financial systems more responsive to the

needs of economic growth, development and trade expansion. The Conference addressed nine areas of concern: (a) resources for development; (b) international trade; (c) technology; (d) trade in services; (e) commodities; (f) the least developed countries; (g) economic cooperation among developing countries; (h) sustainable development; and (i) institutional reform of UNCTAD.

16. UNCTAD VIII also redefined UNCTAD's role and institutional setting in response to the new development challenges and reaffirmed UNCTAD's role as the most appropriate focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and interrelated key issues of trade, finance, investment, services and technology.

3. United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

17. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992, marked an important milestone in international cooperation and action on sustainable development. The Conference was unprecedented in the scope of its work, the level of participation, the scale of governmental and non-governmental involvement and the extent of public impact. The outputs of the Conference included the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21 (a comprehensive programme of action) and a statement of principles on forests. In addition, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity were opened for signature at the Conference and have since been ratified by Member States. Work on a convention on desertification was initiated as a result of the UNCED process and has now been concluded. The Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks were other direct outcomes of UNCED.

4. World Conference on Human Rights

18. The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993, provide the United Nations with a framework of principles and a programme of activities to achieve the objectives of the Charter of the United Nations in the field of human rights. The World Conference took an integrated and comprehensive approach to the protection of human rights, the strengthening of democracy and the promotion of sustainable development. It identified major obstacles to the implementation of human rights and shortcomings, especially in the international protection of these rights, and specified measures which should help to overcome the existing difficulties.

19. The World Conference on Human Rights reaffirmed the universality of all human rights as the birthright of all human beings. It recognized that their promotion and protection is the first responsibility of Governments and, in the framework of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, constitutes a legitimate concern of the international community. The Conference stressed that all human rights - civil, cultural, economic, political and social - are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and must be treated

globally in a fair and equal manner, and it reaffirmed the right to development as an inalienable human right. Further, it pointed out that the universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all contribute to the stability and well-being necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations and to improved conditions for peace and security as well as social and economic development.

5. International Conference on Population and Development

20. The International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) was held in Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994. The ICPD Programme of Action contains 16 chapters, covering the main issues in the field of population and development. Its content reflects the changed perceptions of population issues that have materialized over the past two decades. The basic principle that emerges from the Programme of Action is that investing in people, in their health and education, is key to sustained economic growth and sustainable development. The Programme of Action endorses a new paradigm of population and development - one that shifts emphasis from an exclusive focus on demographic concerns and targets and places the well-being of individual women and men at the centre of sustainable development.

21. The Programme of Action underscores the imperatives of gender equality and equity and of empowering girls and women as important ends in themselves and as a means to achieve sustainable development. It recognizes the need to integrate family planning activities into the broader context of reproductive health and reaffirms the basic human right of all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children and to have the information, education and means to do so. The Programme of Action is grounded in a human rights framework that underscores the need for reconciling the aspirations of individual men and women with macroeconomic development objectives.

22. The Programme of Action contains a number of quantitative goals in the areas of education, health and reproductive health/family planning. These goals cover a period up to 2015 and concern: (a) access to primary education; (b) closing the gender gap in primary and secondary education; (c) reducing infant and under-five mortality rates; (d) reducing maternal mortality rates; (e) access to reproductive health; and (f) meeting family planning needs.

6. World Summit for Social Development

23. The World Summit for Social Development was held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995. It recognized that social development is primarily a national responsibility but also requires the collective efforts of the international community, including the United Nations system. The Summit focused on three core issues: the eradication of poverty; the expansion of productive employment; and the enhancement of social integration. It emphasized that these issues could not be addressed by sectoral action alone, but that social goals must be integrated into general policy-making at all levels.

24. The Summit recommendations include actions to strengthen and expand education and health services, to ensure full and equal access to productive assets and social services, and to provide support for those who cannot support themselves. The Summit called on Governments and other social actors to eliminate all forms of discrimination, to ensure that women can participate fully in all political, economic and social activities, and to protect and promote the participation in economic and social life of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, including older persons, migrants and refugees, people with disabilities and indigenous people. It emphasized that the realization of these objectives requires a favourable political and economic environment and the combined efforts of all social actors, including Governments, business, trade unions, civil society and the international community. The Summit also emphasized the need to support the development efforts of Africa and the least developed countries and to ensure that structural adjustment programmes include social development goals. It called for the improved mobilization of resources for social development and a strengthened framework for international cooperation in the field.

B. Identification of common themes and cross-cutting issues

25. As global conferences become more and more all-encompassing, the commonalities among them increase. Thus, most of them have addressed, in varying degrees of emphasis and detail, such issues as the international economic environment, the role of national policies in promoting social and economic development, the need for finance for development, the external debt problem, and those relating to international trade and science and technology. They have also concerned themselves with poverty and hunger, the role of women in development, and the importance of full employment, social integration and meeting basic social needs. Similarly, preserving the environment and the rational use of natural resources have been on practically all agendas, as have popular participation, democracy, human rights, and good governance. In addition, almost all conferences have acknowledged the special situation that faces Africa, the least developed countries and to some extent the small island developing States and economies in transition.

26. The point of identifying these commonalities is not to undermine the integrity and specificity of each conference, but rather to highlight the common perceptions and objectives that have emerged from these conferences and to show that each can rely fruitfully on and take advantage of the follow-up mechanisms of the others in achieving these common objectives and advancing the integrated approach to development which each of these from different perspectives has advocated.

27. In table I, 12 broad common themes that emerged from the six conferences are identified. Within each broad category some of the more detailed actions or goals are indicated. It is broad themes such as these, and their subsets, which could be grouped together as required, that are most conducive to coordinated follow-up. Elements that are unique to each conference are not included in the table.

28. The issue that arises here, and that is taken up later in this report, is how to weave links among these conferences, without losing their specificity and distinct constituencies, so as to optimize their individual as well as collective impact.

C. Existing mechanisms for follow-up

29. What follows is not an account of the extent to which the various follow-up mechanisms have been successful in implementing the commitments, goals and targets of the conferences. This would be premature in some instances and, in any case, outside the scope of this report. The following review is simply meant to indicate what these various mechanisms have in common and where they differ. Table II provides an overview of the various existing follow-up mechanisms for the six selected conferences.

30. At the intergovernmental level, the follow-up to these conferences is subject to a three-tiered review. All are subject to review, in the last instance, by the General Assembly, for policy formulation. These reviews are usually preceded by consideration by the Economic and Social Council for overall guidance and coordination. In the first instance, the follow-up is reviewed by a functional or other intergovernmental body. In the case of the World Summit for Children, this is the UNICEF Executive Board; for UNCTAD VIII, the Trade and Development Board; for UNCED, the Commission on Sustainable Development; for the World Conference on Human Rights, the Commission on Human Rights; for ICPD, the Commission on Population and Development; and for WSSD, although the final decisions are yet to be taken, the Conference provided for a key role to be played by the Commission for Social Development. Besides this commonality of a three-tiered structure, almost all conferences also have a built-in mid-term review.

31. Each of the above-mentioned subsidiary bodies may set up other bodies, under their authority, to deal with aspects of follow-up to the conference in question.

32. Thus, the Commission on Sustainable Development has established inter-sessional ad hoc open-ended working groups on issues to be decided by the Commission at each session. Rather than establishing standing committees, the Commission, in view of the many issues before it, instituted a multi-year work programme covering 5 cross-sectoral and 11 sectoral clusters to be monitored between 1994 and 1996. Unique to the follow-up mechanism of UNCED was the establishment of the High-level Advisory Board on Sustainable Development, which through the Secretary-General advises the Commission on issues concerning sustainable development. This Board, in turn, has formed three panels of its members to examine and elaborate recommendations on various issues with respect to sustainable development.

33. The Commission on Human Rights has a number of subcommissions that predate the World Conference on Human Rights. Unlike the other conferences and owing to the nature of its subject-matter, the implementation of international human rights standards involves different follow-up mechanisms, consisting of country rapporteurs, thematic special rapporteurs, working groups and treaty bodies, all

of which attach great importance to developing methods and means to improve the implementation of human rights.

34. Following the International Conference on Population and Development, the Population Commission that existed prior to the Conference was transformed into the Commission on Population and Development. Its mandate and functioning are to be determined at the 1995 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council. Similarly, the World Summit for Social Development asked the Economic and Social Council to review the mandate of the Commission for Social Development, which is viewed as having a central role in the follow-up to the Summit. It should be noted that in the follow-up to these conferences the results of other conferences are to be taken into account.

35. The World Summit for Children (WSC) was the first summit of its kind. Its goals and targets have been incorporated into subsequent conferences, most notably UNCED, the World Conference on Human Rights, ICPD and WSSD, but also the International Conference on Nutrition. Thus, besides the UNICEF Executive Board, other intergovernmental bodies are also active in the follow-up of the WSC goals and targets.

36. Following UNCTAD VIII the subsidiary machinery of the Trade and Development Board was considerably changed to better respond to the new priorities. Further adjustments were undertaken at the recently held mid-term review, where the Trade and Development Board ended five ad hoc working groups and created three new groups to deal with trade, environment and sustainable development; the role of enterprises in development; and trading opportunities in the new international trade context.

37. The intergovernmental follow-up runs parallel to the inter-agency follow-up. In all instances this occurs through the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) and its existing subsidiary machinery. However, some new mechanisms have also been established, and depending on the requirements of new conferences, others may well be needed in the future. Among these is the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development (IACSD), which is charged with coordinating the system-wide response to Agenda 21. To carry out its functions, IACSD has designated task managers to coordinate inter-agency cooperation and reporting on the various chapters, issues and programme areas of Agenda 21 in accordance with the multi-year thematic programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

38. Although less formal than IACSD, inter-agency arrangements for the follow-up to the World Summit for Children are also well established and involve, among others, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, UNESCO, UNDP, UNHCR, ILO and the World Bank, all of which pursue aspects of the results of the Summit that are of direct concern to their respective organizations. This close cooperation stems from the recognition that the promotion and implementation of goals and targets for the World Summit for Children goes well beyond the institutional capacity and wherewithal of UNICEF.

39. Concerning ICPD, the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development has been established by the Administrator of UNDP, acting on behalf

of the Secretary-General in discharge of his overall coordination responsibilities. In response to the emphasis placed by ICPD on coordination with other conferences in the social sector, ACC concurred with the Secretary-General's view that the Task Force should be conceived as an integral part of the effort to develop a system-wide coordinated approach to the follow-up to these conferences. The Commission on Population and Development, in its report on the twenty-eighth session (E/1995/27), requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the Task Force was established on a permanent basis and was accountable, through the Commission, for system-wide coordination. A separate report on this and other aspects of the follow-up to ICPD will be before the Council.

40. With respect to the World Conference on Human Rights, the United Nations High Commissioner is responsible for system-wide coordination of activities aiming at the promotion and protection of human rights. A permanent dialogue with the United Nations agencies and programmes has been established to maintain a systematic exchange of information, experience and expertise, and operational cooperation and coordination are being developed. At its first regular session of 1994, ACC addressed the coordination of efforts aimed at the full implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. ACC concluded by affirming the commitment of all agencies to the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action through a number of specific measures, including an assessment of the strategies and policies adopted by the members of ACC on the enjoyment of human rights.

41. In the final analysis, the commitments, goals and targets of the various conferences have to be achieved at the national and regional levels. Successful follow-up at these levels is the ultimate test of the capacity to bring the agreements reached at these conferences to bear on the daily lives of people. In this respect, much experience has been gained from the World Summit for Children. Regional organizations have adopted new mid-decade goals which have subsequently been endorsed by the Executive Board of UNICEF. National plans and goals have been established in a large number of countries. In some 100 countries considerable progress towards the goals of WSC has been registered, and 174 countries have ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

42. While the specificity of goals and targets varies from conference to conference, through national reporting and the resident coordinator system, as well as through mechanisms at the regional level, the degree of progress being achieved can be monitored. Thus, both UNCED and ICPD specifically call for country reporting. In respect of the World Conference on Human Rights, it is relevant to note that an increasing number of United Nations field operations require human rights training enhancement for the personnel involved. In this regard the Centre for Human Rights offers courses, information and special training materials. Also, manuals are being developed for education on the human rights of the international civil servants involved in peacemaking, humanitarian and relief operations.

43. While practically all United Nations conferences have some follow-up mechanisms in place, much work remains to be done to devise arrangements that would avoid overlap and duplication, and more important, help ensure that follow-up actions are mutually reinforcing at all levels. As indicated in

paragraph 39 above, at the Secretariat level, work has been initiated, including through the Inter-Agency Task Force on the follow-up to ICPD, to promote the necessary coordination, particularly at the country level. This provides a model to be built on to create an integrated United Nations system response to the conferences as a whole. At the intergovernmental level, the Economic and Social Council as well as the General Assembly are well placed to advance complementarities in the follow-up to these conferences.

II. ISSUES OF COORDINATION

44. The brief overview of the outcomes of recent major conferences contained in section I as well as the common themes presented in table I point to the increasingly comprehensive manner in which development issues have been addressed in each of them. UNCED, for example, helped place the concept of sustainable development at the intersection of growth, poverty, environment, technology and natural resource use. UNCTAD VIII established a renewed basis for the review of policies and an expanded agenda in the interrelated areas of trade, finance, investment and technology services. The World Conference on Human Rights was the first of its kind to address human rights in all their dimensions, including economic, social and cultural rights as well as the rights of women and children and the right to development. The International Conference on Population and Development was the third international meeting on population, but it was the first to address seriously the interrelationships among population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development. The World Summit for Social Development addressed the problems of poverty, social integration and employment within a common, integrated framework of objectives and values.

45. This striving for comprehensive and integrated actions results from a growing realization that sectoral approaches do not capture the full picture of integrated development. It is, however, important to strike the right balance between the need to maintain an integrated perspective on the follow-up that recognizes the common themes of the conferences and the need to pursue each conference in the context of a set of coherent objectives.

46. While the conference agendas tend to be increasingly cross-sectoral, the United Nations system is largely organized along sectoral lines, as are most national Governments. A coordinated approach, in this context, implies not only the avoidance of duplication and overlap but requires transcending the idea that each conference agenda belongs to a given entity or intergovernmental body, and the willingness to form coherent, cross-sectoral alliances around common themes and goals for joint actions at the national and international levels. As noted earlier, some collaborative initiatives have been taken, to this end.

47. At the country level, where the implementation of the conference outcomes matters the most, the parallel pursuit of interrelated issues could only lead to dissipation of efforts and inefficient use of resources. On the other hand, if these interrelationships are seen as opportunities to help bring the concerned organizations of the United Nations system together around common goals or themes, as for example, in the context of the Inter-Agency Task Force on the follow-up to ICPD, this could greatly enhance the effectiveness and impact of

the development activities of the system. Governments are faced with the same challenge.

48. The need for coordination is especially apparent when we consider the collection and dissemination of data and the monitoring and reporting of programmes, both by Governments and by the agencies. If data requirements of each of these conferences were to be pursued separately, this would not only be duplicative, costly and time-consuming for those who gather information, but would impose tedious and burdensome requirements on those who have to respond to the questionnaires and prepare the necessary reports - not just those in government agencies but also the individual development actors in the field. It should not be too difficult to picture the plight of a working-level official in an economic or social ministry, a project manager in the field, or a poor rural woman participating in a development project, who is first responsible for trying to implement the project with limited resources and then bombarded with uncoordinated requests and questionnaires for information emanating from a multiplicity of bodies and agencies.

49. If data collection, monitoring and reporting could be carried out around commonly agreed themes and goals, on the basis of shared definitions, concepts and approaches, this would considerably enhance the effectiveness of the systems' activities and open up opportunities for joint and shared projects and programmes. This would also help greatly in lightening the monitoring and reporting burden of Governments and development agents on the ground. Some initiatives have been undertaken in this important area - for example, UNICEF chairs the Working Group on a Common Data System at the National Level in the Areas of Infant, Child and Maternal Mortality. There is a need for arrangements with a far broader aim to develop a coordinated and consistent methodological approach to all the data requirements stemming from the global conferences. More specifically, the objectives would be to avoid duplication, to ensure high-quality, representative and coherent data, to integrate, where possible, data relating to different programmes of action, to reduce the burden on countries and to build national statistical capabilities, particularly in the new areas of statistics that are required, in an efficient manner.

50. At the intergovernmental level, the mechanisms for follow-up of conferences have, until now, evolved on distinct intergovernmental tracks, although the need for coordination is being increasingly recognized.

51. In the case of UNCED, the Commission on Sustainable Development was set up as a new functional commission of the Economic and Social Council with a wide-ranging mandate. This has given rise to the need for coordination between the Commission and, for example, UNEP on environmental matters, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on technology transfer issues, and the Commission for Social Development and the UNCTAD Standing Committee on Poverty on issues relating to the eradication of poverty.

52. In the case of ICPD, the terms of reference of the Population Commission have been expanded to cover the interrelationships between population and development, and the name of the Commission has been modified accordingly. In this and other areas where the mandates and responsibilities of relevant intergovernmental bodies are being broadened, arrangements for coordination with

other intergovernmental mechanisms in addressing cross-cutting areas should, to the extent possible, be built in from the inception of the work of these bodies.

III. TOWARDS A COORDINATED APPROACH

A. Scope and coverage

53. The identification of common themes and goals along the lines suggested in section I above and the effort to devise a coordinated approach, using these themes as a point of departure, should not in any way be construed as constituting a "super-agenda" over and above the existing agendas emanating from recent conferences; nor should it be viewed as an exercise in setting priorities apart from those established within the framework of the conferences themselves. Moreover, the aim should not be to coordinate every aspect of all the conferences; rather, the coordination effort needs to focus on those aspects that are common to several of them.

54. A coordinated approach does not necessarily imply the establishment of new mechanisms. The main task is to attempt to devise linkages between existing mechanisms at all levels - national, inter-agency and intergovernmental - to ensure that approaches are harmonized, duplication and overlap are avoided and complementarities are fully exploited.

B. Broad framework and common themes

55. As suggested in section I above, an essential first step towards developing a coordinated approach is to identify the common themes and goals and the cross-cutting issues that these conferences have addressed. Through a vast and complex exercise of thinking, analysis, negotiation and harmonization of competing needs, demands and interests, each of the conferences has made a distinct contribution to defining the elements of a comprehensive development framework. Taken together, they have contributed a more holistic conception of development - that it is, above all, about human beings, that it should be sustainable to ensure intergenerational equity and that growth must be sustained over time to generate the resources necessary for broader development goals to be realized. Thus, human-centred, sustainable and sustained growth and development seem to have emerged as the generally accepted paradigm within which the various programmes of action are to be pursued.

56. Table I represents a first attempt at identifying the commonalities that have emerged from the various conferences. The emphasis placed on many of the common issues obviously was not the same in all conferences. Also, the order in which the themes are placed does not imply any priority among them.

57. These suggestions are by no means definitive or necessarily the best way of classifying the common elements and broad goals. Undoubtedly, there are others. The essential purpose in presenting this schema is to illustrate that it is possible and, indeed, desirable, to pursue such commonalities as the substantive basis for a coordinated approach that is goal- and theme-oriented. This, it is hoped, will stimulate intergovernmental discussions and lead to an

eventual understanding and consensus. The outcome of the ongoing discussions on an Agenda for Development will be particularly relevant in this regard. The common themes presented in table I can be summarized as follows:

(i) A stable macroeconomic policy framework conducive to development;

(ii) External debt and finance for development;

(iii) International trade and commodities;

(iv) Science and technology;

(v) Eradication of poverty and hunger;

(vi) Access to productive occupational opportunities, full employment and family incomes;

(vii) Gender equality, equity and empowerment of women;

(viii) Basic social services for all: primary health care, nutrition, education, safe water and sanitation, population and shelter;

(ix) Promoting social integration;

(x) Environment and natural resources;

(xi) Africa and special categories;

(xii) Participation, democracy, human rights, accountability and partnership with major groups and non-governmental organizations.

58. A further grouping of these themes is also possible and may, indeed, be helpful in achieving the goal of integrated follow-up, particularly in the context of inter-agency cooperation at the country level. Thus, for example, if the first four themes, (i)-(iv), together with the ninth (ix) and the last theme (xii), were looked at together, these could be seen to constitute the broad framework of "an enabling environment". Similarly, "basic social services for all" (viii) could be seen as a second grouping. A third category could be "access to sustainable livelihoods, full employment and family incomes" if poverty eradication (v) and access to productive employment (vi) were seen together. Another category might be "environment and natural resources" (x). Accordingly, most of the themes could be grouped together, for example, along the following lines:

Group I. The enabling environment

(i) A stable macroeconomic policy framework conducive to development;

(ii) External debt and finance for development;

(iii) International trade and commodities;

(iv) Science and technology;

(v) Participation, democracy, human rights, accountability and partnership with major groups and non-governmental organizations;

(vi) Promoting social integration.

Group II. Basic social services for all: primary health care, nutrition, education, safe water and sanitation, population and shelter

Group III. Access to sustainable livelihoods, full employment and family incomes

(i) Access to productive occupational opportunities and full employment;

(ii) Eradication of poverty and hunger.

Group IV. Environment and natural resources

59. A number of issues, such as gender equality, equity and empowerment of women; poverty eradication; participation and human rights; and the problems of Africa and special categories of countries cut across all the themes. These should therefore be viewed as essential elements running through an integrated follow-up process.

60. Table I also includes under each theme an illustrative list of actions or goals common to two or more conferences, grouped under national, regional and international headings. It must be emphasized that this list is far from exhaustive. But this should not divert attention from what should be the main focus, namely, how the broad themes that have emerged from recent global conferences should be addressed in a coordinated manner in the various follow-up processes.

C. Elements of a coordinated approach

61. As the brief review of the follow-up mechanisms of various conferences and their summary presentation in table II clearly indicate, a strong basis for coordination already exists through the available intergovernmental, inter-agency and country-level machinery. The approaches developed in the past few years by ACC to guide the division of labour within the system are also well suited to facilitating a coordinated approach to the implementation of the results of recent global conferences. These approaches, when extended to the follow-up to conferences, imply a careful selection by each concerned United Nations entity of the core set of issues coming directly within its purview and of related issues that are, instead, best addressed on the basis of inputs from other bodies more directly concerned with them.

1. Intergovernmental coordination

62. In the established roles and Charter responsibilities of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations system has at its disposal central intergovernmental machinery for overall policy guidance and coordination. Most of the conferences under review were launched by the General Assembly itself, which then acts on their outcomes and provides for the institutional arrangements for their follow-up. Indeed, the Assembly features explicitly in most of the action plans as the final authority for the review and monitoring of progress in their implementation. In addition, Agenda 21 envisages a special session of the General Assembly in 1997 for a full review of its implementation. The World Summit for Social Development has also called for a special session in the year 2000 for the same purpose.

63. Likewise, the coordinating role of the Economic and Social Council is clearly reflected in almost all the programmes of action. For example, the General Assembly in endorsing the ICPD Programme of Action, has provided that the Council should carry out its coordinating responsibilities in the context of a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism composed of the General Assembly, the Council itself and the revitalized Commission on Population and Development in its role of monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation of the Programme of Action. Similarly, it was in recognition of the Council's central coordinating role that the Commission on Sustainable Development was established specifically as a functional commission of the Council.

64. It should also be borne in mind that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council also have varying oversight responsibilities vis-à-vis such intergovernmental bodies as the Trade and Development Board, the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UNDP/UNFPA, and the functional commissions, such as the Commissions on Sustainable Development, Population and Development, Human Rights, and Social Development, which have the responsibility, at the functional level, for implementation of the outcomes of the various conferences in their respective areas of competence.

65. The General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council thus have a critical role to play in organizing the follow-up to the conferences in a manner that optimizes harmonization and coordination among them.

(a) The role of the General Assembly

66. As noted earlier, in view of its central policy-making role, the General Assembly is ultimately responsible for reviewing the implementation of each action programme. In most instances, these reviews take place in either the Second or Third Committee. Two aspects need to be considered in this regard: first, how to ensure that the debates in the two Committees do not simply repeat those in the Economic and Social Council and, secondly, what can be done to establish linkages among these debates so that clearer guidance on policy harmonization among the follow-up processes can be provided.

67. It must be pointed out that these questions are of long-standing concern in the larger context of the work of the General Assembly. There are no easy solutions. Nevertheless, the specific context of the follow-up of conferences

may provide the opportunity to achieve further progress towards greater coherence and rationalization. Thus, for example, in submitting its report to the General Assembly, every two years the Economic and Social Council could identify a few broad policy questions cutting across different conferences, on which the Assembly could focus in its consideration of the follow-up to these conferences. This could in turn provide a basis for organizing the deliberations of the Second and Third Committees on a biennial basis around such policy themes. Secondly, more use could be made of such innovative techniques as panel discussions and interactive debates around the selected theme; ways and means could also be explored for holding consultations with major groups and non-governmental organizations, as well as the best available experts from all regions, on common themes and cross-cutting issues. Periodic consultations between the bureaux of the two Committees on these and other matters of common concern could also be envisaged. In order to review some selected themes, the feasibility of joint meetings of the Second and Third Committees could also be considered.

(b) The role of the Economic and Social Council

68. In view of its dual responsibilities relating to system-wide coordination and oversight of its functional commissions, the Economic and Social Council is especially well placed to advance the objective of a coordinated follow-up to global conferences. Arrangements to this end are yet to be developed. Follow-up work has so far been largely concentrated in the functional intergovernmental bodies concerned; their mandates are being expanded and the frequency of their meetings is being increased for this purpose. So far, the Council's role has largely been limited to endorsing the results of reviews undertaken by the relevant functional bodies. If a coordinated approach to implementation of the conference agendas is to be pursued, the Council will need to play a more pro-active and intensive role in organizing the work and the agendas of its functional commissions, particularly in so far as they relate to the common themes and cross-cutting issues that call for coordination.

69. To this end, a number of arrangements could be devised. The Council could, for example, meet early in the year and, either itself or through its bureau, establish the basis for a division of labour among the functional bodies by providing guidance on the thematic issues that should be given primary attention by a given functional body and those that should be reviewed by that body on the basis of inputs from other bodies that have primary responsibility for them. In relation to poverty eradication, for instance, which figures in almost all conferences, there would be much to gain if the bodies concerned were able to avoid covering the same ground. There are many such issues where the Council could play a role in defining primary and secondary responsibilities among the various functional bodies. To this end, the bureau of the Council, in consultation with the bureaux of the bodies concerned, could help prepare the ground for the necessary decisions by the Council.

70. Secondly, the Council itself could also decide to carry out thematic reviews of the major conferences periodically, say every two years, within the framework of its coordination and operational activities segments, on the basis of themes selected sufficiently in advance so that consolidated reports could be prepared, bringing together information and analysis from the national and

inter-agency levels as well as the work carried out by the relevant functional bodies. These reviews would then be the basis for the identification of policy issues for consideration by the General Assembly, as suggested in paragraph 67 above. The policy dialogue with the multilateral trade and financial institutions of the system that takes place in the context of the high-level segment could afford another opportunity for thematic discussions on economic and trade policy questions addressed in the conferences, on the basis of analytical background material to be prepared in collaboration with the multilateral trade and financial organizations concerned. The World Economic and Social Survey could also be utilized to support these thematic discussions.

71. If a system of consolidated reporting at the country and inter-agency levels is developed around common themes, as suggested below, the coordinated review and monitoring of progress by the functional bodies, in the first instance, and eventually by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, would be greatly facilitated.

(c) The role of other intergovernmental bodies

72. As noted above, recent major conferences have either led to the creation or transformation of some intergovernmental bodies, such as the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Trade and Development Board, or have suggested the need for a considerable broadening of the mandates of existing ones, such as the Commission on Population and Development and the Commission for Social Development. If their work programmes are not carefully harmonized, the broad nature of the reviews to be carried out by these bodies could lead to considerable overlap among them.

73. Apart from the role that the Economic and Social Council can play in promoting a clear division of labour among its subsidiary bodies, a determined and continuous effort will need to be made by the bodies concerned to define their areas of comparative advantage carefully and to focus their discussions on those aspects of the conference agendas that are of primary relevance to their mandates. For this to happen, it would be necessary to ensure a regular exchange of information among their respective bureaux. The secretariats of these bodies must also play their part in this effort. This task should be greatly facilitated by the fact that the Commissions on Sustainable Development, Social Development and the Status of Women are serviced by the same department of the United Nations Secretariat. In other cases, greater coordination and cooperation will be required among the various parts of the Secretariat and those of other relevant entities.

74. In addition to these arrangements and the reviews of the terms of reference of individual subsidiary bodies, which have already taken place or are planned, it may be desirable to carry out in due course an overall review of the mandates of all relevant subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council to ensure that the machinery in its totality is conducive to an effective and coordinated follow-up to global conferences.

2. Inter-agency coordination

75. As is the case at the intergovernmental level, through the recently reformed and strengthened ACC and its two substantive standing committees (CCPOQ and IACSD), mechanisms are already in place at the inter-agency level to promote the necessary coordination of conference follow-up. Special attention is being given at the moment to strengthening the oversight role of ACC and ensuring a systematic exchange of information and a rational division of labour between its standing committees as well as between the ACC machinery and any specific inter-agency mechanisms set up in the context of the follow-up to individual conferences.

76. With respect to ACC, it may be recalled that the follow-up to UNCED has been a regular item on its agenda. At its first regular session of 1995, ACC discussed the follow-up to ICPD and elaborated the elements of a coordinated system-wide response to it. ACC has also discussed the follow-up to the Vienna Programme of Action on human rights and pursued the system-wide preparations for the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women. It will no doubt consider system-wide implications of the outcomes of these events as well. ACC thus remains actively engaged in the conference processes at every stage. At its first regular session of 1995, recognizing the critical need for coordination, ACC called for the articulation of a common framework for the follow-up of major international conferences in the economic, social and related fields. While ACC initiated work to this end, it expressed the view that the development of such a framework would require the full attention of the relevant intergovernmental bodies and should be a central concern of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

77. In recent years, as part of its overall reform initiated by the Secretary-General, ACC has undertaken an extensive review of the division of labour within the system and has agreed upon some principles and policies to guide the organizations of the system (for details, see the annual overview reports of ACC for 1993 (E/1994/19 and 1994 (E/1995/21)). These principles and policies are designed to promote an improved sharing of responsibilities and strengthened collaboration within the system and to require a clear articulation of common goals and a shared understanding of the problems to be tackled and the approaches to be followed. This has prepared the ground, to a significant extent, for the coordinated implementation of those aspects of the conference action plans that are addressed by the United Nations system.

78. As the current round of conferences is completed, following the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995 and Habitat II in 1996, ACC will have the task of monitoring their effective follow-up within the system at the inter-agency level. It will in all likelihood do so on the basis of thematic approaches, without prejudice to specific arrangements required to advance coordination in different sectoral areas. If the General Assembly and the Council were to adopt the arrangements for biennial thematic reviews suggested above, ACC would no doubt adapt its programme of work to optimize its support for these intersectoral reviews, including the provision of consolidated information, analyses and assessments of system-wide activities relating to the selected theme at the national, regional and international levels. CCPOQ and IACSD, with the assistance of relevant inter-agency mechanisms at the country level, could

help prepare these overall reviews by ACC. The ACC reviews should also help identify issues of policy coordination within the system, as well as the actions required to address them, which could be brought to the attention of the relevant functional bodies, as well as the Economic and Social Council for its biennial review, as envisaged in paragraphs 68-71 above.

3. Coordination at the country and regional levels

79. As in the case of intergovernmental coordination, the starting-point of coordinated United Nations system action at the country level is a shared understanding of the common themes and goals that need to be pursued, in accordance with the needs and priorities identified by the country concerned. On the basis of such understandings, United Nations system follow-up around themes and goals should be organized, building on the arrangements already in place, that is, through the resident coordinator system, and within the framework of the country strategy notes where they exist or are in preparation. It is hoped that in so doing, the United Nations system will be able to better assist its national partners both in achieving the conference goals and in simplifying their own conference follow-up responsibilities.

80. In line with the approach envisaged in General Assembly resolution 47/199, the resident coordinator in consultation with the Government, and in the light of national priorities, could utilize thematic groups composed of the concerned agencies, with a designated lead agency or task manager under his or her overall leadership, to serve as the nuclear mechanisms with the responsibility of developing integrated approaches for the realization of common goals, including the development of a common data system at the national level to facilitate monitoring and reporting on the progress achieved. These inter-agency groups could serve as a key instrument for joint inter-agency initiatives to enhance complementarities and minimize unnecessary duplication. They could also be a key source of consolidated information and assessment at the country level that could feed into the overall thematic reviews by the Economic and Social Council and ACC, suggested in paragraphs 68-71 and 75-78 above.*

81. The Government should be actively involved in the formation of the thematic groups and may also consider constituting its own interdepartmental team to serve as a counterpart and interlocutor of the inter-agency team. If required and where they do not exist, inter-agency task forces at the headquarters level could be organized to provide policy guidance to the teams at the country level and to channel consolidated reports to ACC, through CCPOQ and/or IACSD, and eventually to other relevant intergovernmental bodies and to the Economic and Social Council.

82. On issues that are of a regional character or are amenable to a regional or subregional approach, the regional commissions could play a role analogous to

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* It may be noted that some work has been initiated by IACSD to identify ways of stimulating national sustainable development strategies as an umbrella concept to which all sectoral strategies (in such areas as health, energy, coastal zone management, climate change and biodiversity) could be linked.

that of functional intergovernmental bodies and submit their reports to the Council for its consideration within the context of its overall thematic review.

D. Concluding observations

83. Table III presents, in the form of a flow chart, an overview of the respective roles of the various bodies and entities in the suggested approach. As can be seen, this approach seeks to enhance coherence of action at various levels by building horizontal and vertical linkages among existing mechanisms and arrangements for coordination. The suggested lines of coordination at the intergovernmental, inter-agency and country levels are practically analogous. This is intended to minimize the burdens of meetings and reporting. More important, if pursued with consistency, it should help to prevent unnecessary duplication, enhance complementarities and promote a culture of coordination and cooperation at all levels.

84. It must be emphasized, however, that even the most well-coordinated effort to implement conference goals will not be successful unless the required resources, both financial and human, can be mobilized at the national as well as international level. The ambitious and far-reaching conference agreements contrast sharply with the current environment of stagnant or shrinking resource availability, both through bilateral and multilateral channels. If the prospects for new or additional resources for the implementation of these agreements do not improve, the goals and commitments emanating from major conferences will begin to acquire the aura of an increasingly unrealistic vision. If the present situation is allowed to persist for long, the resulting climate of cynicism could well undermine even the effort to promote a coordinated approach. It is therefore critical for the international community to pull together its collective political will to mobilize the necessary resources, particularly for multilateral cooperation, if the United Nations system is to mount not only a well-coordinated but a full and effective response to the conference agendas.

TABLE I. COMMON THEMES AMONG SIX UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCES IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED FIELDS

Overall themes emerging from the various conference agendas: human centered, sustainable and sustained growth and development

Overall Themes	World Summit for Children (WSC) Sept. 1990	UNCTAD VIII (Cartagena Conference) Feb. 1992	UNCED June 1992	World Conference on Human Rights (HR) June 1994	International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Sept. 94	World Summit for Social Development (WSSD) March 1995
I. A STABLE MACROECONOMIC POLICY FRAMEWORK CONDUCIVE TO DEVELOPMENT:						
International						C. 1ej C.9b Para. 26a..
- Supportive international economic environment		32-34	Para 2.35/40	I.9,12,25,34, 36	Princ. 15 Para 14.5	
- Greater international financial stability		32, 97	Para 2.35a..	I.12,34 II.2,72		Para. 9g
- Right to development				I.9,10,23-25 II.72	Princ. 3 Para.3.16	Para 15d, 17c
- Incorporation of social, human, and environmental concerns into internationally supported adjustment programmes		94	Para 2.33 3.10, 24.8	I.10,23, 24	Para 3.22	C. 8..
National All Countries: - Sustained non-inflationary growth		31, 32, 91, 96, 97,	Princ. 12, Para. 2.35-37	I.10	Princ. 15, Para 14.5	C. 1b, Para. 26a...
- Role of markets - Promotion of private sector and effective resource use		22, 29, 95	Para. 2.37c 2.38c			C. 1e, C. 9c Para 12..
- Integrate population factors and policies into sustainable development strategies			Chap.5		Chap.3, 13, 14, 16	Chap1 para 8
II. FINANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND EXTERNAL DEBT						
International						C1j C. 9 Para 9g, 87-93
- Increased multilateral resources to achieve the objectives of each conference - UN, international financial institutions and donors to coordinate planning and finance for improved impact/cost effectiveness of external resources		109-118	Chap.33 Para 2.26...	I.9,12,34,35 II.2	Para 16.18 Chap 13, 14	
- Effective, development-oriented, durable solution to the external debt problem (covering all types of debt)		31, 220	Para 33.14.e 33.16.a 2.27-30	I.12,34,35 II.2	Para.3.22 14.17	C. 9 Para. 10a, 90

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	WSC	UNCTAD VIII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
National Developing countries: - Mobilize external and domestic resources for development	D.20.10 D. 30	90, 118, 91	Chap. 33	I.25	Para 1.9, 3.22, Chap.13/14 Para 14.10/16	C. 1j, C. 9, Para. 86c 87-93
Developed Countries: - New and additional financial resources	D. 20.10 Para. 30	118	Chap 33	I.25	Chap 13, 14 Par.1.9 3.22	C. 1j, C. 9a Para 87-93
- ODA: reach target of 0.7%		108	Para 33.13		Para 14.11	C. 9l, Para. 86b
- Increase foreign direct investment to developing countries		37, 90-91, 113	Para 33.15	I.25	Para 3.22	C. 9a
All countries: - Resources for development from reduced military expenditure	Para. 31	98	Para 33.16e			C. 9g, Para. 87b
III. INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND COMMODITIES International - An open, equitable, secure, nondiscriminatory and predictable international trading system	D. 20.10 Para. 30	126b	Para 2.9a, 2.10b	I.25	Para 3.22	Para. 9c
- Full completion and implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements		143	Para. 2.10e		(Para 3.10)	C. 9p par.9d
- Facilitate integration of all countries into international trading system		125, 126, 129, 130	Para. 2.10c	I.31		C.9p, Para. 10d, 11g
- Mutually supportive trade and environment policies		135, 137, 152	Pr. 12, Para. 2.10 2.22	I.31		(Para. 31i)
- Improve the functioning of commodity markets, agreements on commodities		190, 192, 196 205-207	Para 2.16	I.31		Para. 11c, 31cd
Regional - Enhance South-South cooperation		235...	Para 2.40	I.37 II.76	Para 14.10c 14.16	C.9n Para 99c

	WSC	UNCTAD VIII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
National All Countries - Halt and reverse protectionism	D 20.10 Para. 30	126	Para 2.10		Para 3.22	C 10d, Para 9d
- Improve competitiveness of commodities		196 208	Para 2.13-14	I.11		
Developing Countries: - Enhance trade among developing countries		128, 238	Para 2.12..			Para. 11cd, 31cd
- Diversification to reduce dependence on commodities		194-196	Para 2.11-16			Para 10, 11
Developed Countries: - Improved access for exports (including commodities) of developing and transition countries		151, 197, 199, 200	Para 2.9a			C1j..
- Support diversification efforts of developing countries		164-176	Para 2.16..			Para 10.e 11
IV. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY International - Facilitate transfer of technology and know-how to ensure endogenous capacity building in developing countries, and technological cooperation among developing countries - Increase transfer of environmentally sound technology to developing countries		165-176	Princ 9 Chap 34, 37	I.25	Chap 12 Para 3.22 14.6	C.1j C. 6x C9jk Para 11, 50cd
National - Enhance technological development	Para. 34vii	165-176	Princ. 9 Chap. 34, 37.. Para 6.29 16.12..	I.11	Chap 12 Para 14.6	C. 2c Para. 9c 50b
- Develop environmentally sound technology		176b, 174	Chap. 34	I.11	(Chap.12..)	
- Appropriate use of biotechnology			16.15-30	I.11	(Chap 12, Para 12.11/18..)	

	WSC	UNCTAD VIII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
V. ERADICATION OF POVERTY AND HUNGER Poverty Eradication: International - High priority objective of the international community and in follow-up - Support formulation of national action programmes and strategies for poverty eradication - International cooperation for poverty eradication		3, 23, 36-44	Princ. 5 Chapter 3 (Para 3.10)	I.14,25	Princ. 7 Para 3.10-32 13.23	Para. 25-41 C. 2, C. 6u
National - Require measures other than anti-poverty programmes: democratic participation, policies for revitalizing growth and a stable macro-economic environment; policies to address the root causes of poverty (basic education, primary health care, basic social services). Also gender equality, achievement of child related goals. Incorporating gender approach to poverty eradication	Para. 28-32		Para 3.1-3.8	I.21,23-25	Para 3.12-15, 3.17-22	C. 2 Para. 26-27, 35.
- Actions to ensure access of the poor to basic services and productive resources, action in the area of employment, enhance social protection...			Para 3.8 7.16, 12.26/28	I.23-25	Para 3.19 9.15/16 3.29b	C. 2c, Para. 31, 35-40
- Formulating national strategies to eradicate poverty (IY poverty eradication) - Review policies, programmes and budget for the eradication of poverty - Measurement (statistical) of poverty		40	Para 3.9	I.25	Para 3.29 12.21/26	C.2 Para. 13, 25-29,
Food Security: International - (UN) work with governments for regional and subregional strategies for sustainable agricultural development and food security, to eliminate hunger, to improve understanding of problems in the area of food and agriculture			Para 14.11	I.31		(C7b...)
National - Eliminate hunger; promote food security through sustainable food production in the context of sustainable agriculture; enhance food distribution and storage; improve market access; improve access to food for low income populations	Para. 14		Para 3.8.I 14.9	I.31	Para 3.20	Para. 9f, C. 2

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	WSC	UNCTAD VIII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
- Identify critical areas for food security based on population trends; national policy review; policy incentives for sustainable agriculture and rural development; - Operational multisectoral plans to enhance sustainable food security, early warning systems; - Land tenure, property rights, particularly for women...			Para 14.8 14.9	I.23,24,31	Para 3.20 3.23/32 12.23	C2, CSc
VI. ACCESS TO PRODUCTIVE OCCUPATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, FULL EMPLOYMENT AND FAMILY INCOMES - Importance of sound macroeconomic framework for growth that promotes employment, training, education and re-training policies		26-44	Para 3.8	I.24 II.35	Para 3.21/22	C. 3, Para. 47-52e
- Encourage private sector, foster entrepreneurship, make enterprise creation easier, Maximize job creation potential of the informal sector by removing discriminatory regulations...; Small and medium scale enterprises; Innovative options for employment creation, and labour intensive industry;		4, 7, 11, 16i, 22, 63	Chap.29/30 Para 3.8	I.23, 24 II.35	Para 3.21 (9.15)	C. 3bch, Para. 12, 34, 49-51
- Improve the quality of employment, apply labour standards, ILO conventions, improve working environment, reduce environmental health hazard at workplace			Para 29.2/3	I.19,23,24 II.33-35		Para. 47, 50, 55, C. 3
- Broader definition of work and employment, recognize unpaid work, including domestic activities, through resource accounting mechanisms			Para 24.8e	I.24 II.33-35		C.5n Para. 47, 64/65
- Actions to better address the problems of long and short-term unemployment (youth, women, disadvantaged)			Para 25.6	I.16-24 II.33-43	3.15	Para. 47, 48, 58

	WSC	UNCTAD VIII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
VII. GENDER EQUALITY, EQUITY AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN						
International						
- UN to advance women's status and women's rights in its activities - Gender-sensitive monitoring of all agendas			Chap 24,..	I.18, 28 II.37, 42	Principle 4, Chapter 4..	C.5...
National						
- Advancing gender equality, equity and empowerment of women; enhancing contribution of women to sustainable development through full participation - All socio-economic policies to be reviewed and planned in a gender sensitive manner; gender-disagregated data and statistics. - Gender consideration in all aspects of follow up to agendas - Formulate and implement clear government policies, guidelines and strategies to achieve equality in all aspects of society	Para. 15		Princ. 20 Para. 5.28 24.2.d 24.8/11	I.18 II.36	Princ. 4 Para. 4.19/20 7.34/48 12.4/7	C5.. Para. 26eg, 26b, 47..
- Respect for women's and girl's human rights - Adhere to and implement CEDAW and relevant international instruments	Para. 15		Para 24.2f 24.4	I.18,28 II.36,39	Para 4.5 Princ. 4	C. 5k
- Eliminate de facto and de jure discrimination, ensure equal access to productive resources (land, credit, education, health) and employment - Close gender gap in education, measures to keep girls in school, women in non traditional fields			Para 32.6.d 24.2.f 24.3 24.2c 36.5/6	I.18,33 II.39-40 II.78-82	Para 4.4 4.14 11.8.. Princ. 4	Para. 7.56 36a.. C.5 C.6
- Promote equal partnership between women and men in family, community, society, including measures to ensure male responsibility in parenthood, and family planning.			Chap. 24.	I.18	Para 7.8 4.26	D.Para. 7, C. 5...
- Eliminate violence against women and children			Para 24.2h	I.18,21,23, 24,28, II. 38	Princ. 4 para 4.4 4.9/10 4.22	C. 5h..
- Measures to increase women's participation in decision-making, in government, environment, population and development. Participation in policy making and management of public and social services			Para 24.2/3	I.18 II.43	Para 4.4 4.8 4.12	D.Para. 26a C. 5...
- Laws, regulations, measures (parental leaves) to allow combination of work and family responsibilities by parents			Para 24.2b 24.3df	I.18	Para 4.13 5.3 4.4g	C. 3, Para. 47, 55, 56
- Measures to ensure equal employment opportunities (hiring, wages) in formal and informal sector	Para. 34v		Para 24.3 24.8	I.18 II.36-43	Para 4.7/8 44.4 13.9d	Para 47, 56a-c...

	WSC	UNCTAD VIII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
VIII. BASIC SOCIAL SERVICES FOR ALL: PRIMARY HEALTH CARE EDUCATION, NUTRITION, SAFE WATER AND SANITATION, POPULATION, AND SHELTER International - International organizations to support and coordinate national actions in health, education, population, shelter, nutrition (United Nations Decade for human rights education)	Para. 35i		Chap 3, 6, 7.. Para 36.5	I.25, 33 II.78-82		C. 6ay
- Enhanced coordination of international/UN action in basic social needs; enhanced resources			Para 5.54-55	I.25	14.13 16.20-29	C. 6w.., Para. 35d, 87-93
National - Develop national action action plans and strategies on health, education, population, nutrition...	Para. 34i		Para 6.13 Chap 36		Chap. 8, 11, 13, 16, Chap. 11..	C. 6,...
Health: - Measures to improve health status; implement strategy of health for all	Para. 5, 9, 16 and 24		Para 6.1 6.4..		Princ. 8..	C. 5d C. 6m
- Comprehensive, inter-sectoral, integrated approach to health policy; integrated reproductive and child health priority; health dimension of all policies. Link health and environment management. - Strengthen primary health care; achieve universal, gender-equal access, attention to underserved (particularly women)	Para. 17 Para. 9		Chap.6	I.18,22, 25 II.64	Princ. 8, Para 6.17 8.5 8.17	C. 6o Para. 37f C. 5d
- Participatory/community management and design of health services (women, vulnerable groups), especially reproductive health care. Services adapted to vulnerable group's and women's needs and constraints. - Recognize role of women as health custodian of family care. Adapt services to their needs and possibilities for access.	Para. 34 Para. 17		Para 3.8j 5.51 6.5 viii 6.9 6.27	I.18,22 II.41,64	Para 4.11 7.7 7.9 8.6	C1c...
- Measures at national level to ensure that communicable disease (AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis) are prevented and controlled so as not to reverse progress in the economic and social development - Research, prevention and treatment of AIDS, with special attention to women and girls. Comprehensive approach, addressing socio-economic factors, and support to people with AIDS. Treatment of sexually transmitted diseases	Para. 10		Para 6.11, 6.12j 6.13iii	I.18,21 II.47	Para 7.27 7.40 8.28/35	C. 6q C.7g...

	WSC	UNCTAD VII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
- Improvement of nutritional status of all, with special attention to women and children	Para. 13-14		Para 6.27		Para 8.20, 8.24	C.6...
- Promote and support breastfeeding	D. 20.4, Para. 17		Para 3.8j, 5.51	I.18	Para 8.15c, 8.16	
- Population Services: Men and women to have the right, means and information to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children (ICPD: responsibilities of men, rights of adolescents)	D. 20.4 Para. 17		Para. 3.8j 5.49-5.52 6.26	I.18	Princ. 8 Chap. 7	Para. 36h 37e
Education: - Universal access to quality education - High priority to basic education in national action and international cooperation, meet basic learning needs. National strategies and actions to meet basic learning needs	Para. 5e Para. 21		Para 24.2 36.4/5	I.18,21 II.79-82	Princ. 10 Para 3.17 11.5 11.7 11.10	C. 6....
- Commitments of Jomtien Conference on Education for All reaffirmed (universal basic education, focus on high illiteracy and lack of basic education among women and girls, vocational training and preparation for employment, increased acquisition of knowledge, skills and values through all educational media), attention to sparsely populated areas and vulnerable groups - Strengthen/formulate time-bound strategies for eradication of illiteracy	Para. 20		Para 36.4a 36.5	I.18,25 II.64,79	Para 11.6	C. 6, Para. 37a, 74h
Measures to ensure: - Quality of education and training - Vocational education and training - Education to reflect evolution on labour market; identify labour force training needs with a view to meeting those needs (review by 1995)	D. 6, 20 Para. 20		Para 36.14/ 36.18	I.23-25	Para 3.17 6.13, 11.6	Para. 74i, C. 6i...
- Curriculum to reflect various aspects of sustainable development: human rights, gender equality, population issues, population and development, reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, social integration and health			Para 5.12 5.37 24.2.e 25.9.d Chap 36	I.18 II.78-82	Para 11.5c, 11.6 11.9 11.15/26	C. 6j, Para 16b, 16d
- Use all channels for education, non formal education, alternative learning structure	Para. 20		Para 25.9 36.5	I.18 II.79-82	Para 11.5b, 11.8	C. 6x

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	WSC	UNCTAD VII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
Goals and targets Health - Goals for increased life expectancy at birth (ICPD: 70 yrs in 2005 and 75 yrs in 2015, plus goals according to overall mortality level; WSSD: 60 yrs by 2000	Para. 5b Para. 5a			I.18,21 II.47	Para 8.5	Para. 36.b
- Goals for eradicating/controlling communicable diseases: By 2000, eradication of guinea worm disease, polio, control of onchocerciasis, 50-70% reduction in deaths from childhood diarrhoea and 25-50% reduction in its incidence in LDCs; programmes to reduce by 1/3 deaths from acute respiratory infection among under-five, anti-malaria programmes in all countries concerned, control programmes for parasitic infections for a reduction of schistosomiasis and other trematode infections by 40% and 15%, unified anti-AIDS efforts, contain resurgence of tuberculosis	Para. 15 Para. 9		Para 6.12	I.21 II.47		Para. 36j
- Goals for children health, nutrition: By 2000: infant and under-five mortality rates reduced by 1/3 of 1990 level (or to 50/000 and 70/000 respectively) - By 2015: infant mortality rates: less than 35/1000; under five: less than 45/1000 - By 2000: halving of severe and moderate malnutrition of under-five	Para. 5a Para. 5c		Para 6.24	I.21 II.47	Para 8.5	C. 6p Para. 36c, 36f
- Promote safe motherhood, including measures for women's health in general - Target for 2000: halving maternal mortality compared to 1990	Para. 17 Para. 5b		Para 6.24	I.18,21 II.47	Para 8.20-27	C. 6p, Para. 36d
- Goals for improved health in urban areas: By 2000: 10-40% improvement in health indicators			Para 6.32-34	II.47		
- Universal safe drinking water and sanitation by 2000/2025; elimination of guinea worm disease	Para. 12 Para. 5d		Para 18.49 6.24	I.21 II.47		
- Monitor implementation of health and education goals at appropriate levels				I.21 II.47		Para. 36
Population: - Reproductive health care system available to all through primary health care by 2015, family planning needs to be met by 2015				I.18, 21 II.47	Para 7.6 7.16	Para. 36h
Education: - Completion of primary education by 80% of relevant age group by 2000 (Jomtien Conference) - By 2000, reduction of adult illiteracy by half compared to 1990, emphasis on female illiteracy	Para. 20, 55e, 5f		Para 36.4a, 36.5a	I.18 II.47	Para 11.6	Para. 36a, 36k

	WSC	UNCTAD VIII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
- Universal access to primary education by 2015				I.33 II.47	Para 11.6	Para. 36a
- 50% access to secondary schooling by 2000			Para 25.5	II.47		
- Attention to quality of education of boys and girls by 2015				I.18,21	Para 11.6	
- Close gender gap in primary and secondary education by year 2005				I.18		Para. 36a C. 6a
Shelter: - Improve availability of shelter for all, in accordance with global strategy for shelter to year 2000 - Global progress reports on national and international action			Para 7.6/7.9	I.18		Para. 36m
IX. PROMOTING SOCIAL INTEGRATION International - UN cooperation in activities in areas mentioned below	Para. 3, 35		Para 3.10 25.7, 25.10, 25.15..	I.3,21,2 3,24,28 II.49-53	Chap.10, 13, 14..	Chapter V..
- Encourage international mechanisms promoting the elimination of discrimination			Chap.3, 6. 24/26..	I15....	Chap.4, 6, 9, 10...	C4m...
- UN monitor the children's human rights and situation. Role in protecting children and women in armed conflicts. Support implementation of Convention on the Rights of the Child.				I.21, 23, 24, 28, 30 II.45,46, 4850, 51		
- Enhance international mechanisms for assisting refugees and migrants			(Chap.5)	II.33/35. ..	Para. 10.9/10.19	C4n, Para 74c
- Measures to combat illicit drug activities and to combat crime	Para. 24			I.21 II.47		Para. 4l, 17b 79
National - Measures to eliminate discrimination in all its forms - respect cultural, ethnic and religious diversity			Chap 3, 24, 25, 26, 36...	I.15, 28 II.19-27	Princ.1, 2, 3...	D.Para. 16 C. 4bi...
- Strengthen organizations of civil society and promote their participation in the follow-up. Promote participation of youth in all aspects of society	D.22, 34iv		Princ. 21, Chap. 25	I.23,24	Para 15.7/20	Para. 75l, 85...

	WSC	UNCTAD VIII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
- Provide comprehensive support and protection to the **family**. Ensure all policies (health, housing, employment, social security) are family sensitive. Support single-parent families, poor, victimized families.	D.14		(Para 5.32)	I.21	Princ.9 Para 5.2-13	C. 4k..
- Social safety nets, social support, during ill-health, maternity, child rearing, widowhood, disability, old-age		29	(Para 5.32..)	I.18,22, 25 II.63	Para 5.2b, 6.18 6.20	C. 2d Para. 38
- Measures to protect **vulnerable groups**, to combat discrimination, to empower them through equal access to productive resources, social and other public services, their participation in society and in decision-making (disabled person, elderly, indigenous) - Measures to incorporate the knowledge of indigenous people into programmes			Para 6.18-27 5.32 26.4/6 Princ. 22..	I.3,18-25,28 II.25-26, 63-65	Para 6.16-33 Princ. 14	Para. 15i, 75, 6n, 12i, 26d, C. 4d
- Measures to protect the rights of **migrants and refugees**. Ensure their proper treatment, security and safety, protect them against trafficking/exploitation, ensure integration of long-term residents; deal with the root causes of undocumented migration			Para 5.33/34	I.17,19, 23,24,28 II.34-35,54,61	Princ. 12 Para 10.1/10.29	C. 4e, C. 3, Para. 76, 77d, 78
Children - Priority for children. Children's concerns into all policies for environment and development. Review policies and budget to ensure priority for children.	Para. 19, 31-34		Para 25.14	I.21 II.45	Princ. 11 Para 6.8	(C.6)
- Promote children rights, especially the rights of the girl child - Ratify and implement the Convention on the Right of the Child by 1995	Para. 3, 8		Para 25.8 25.14b	I.21 II.49	Para 4.16/23 6.10	C.6c Para.55d
- Address all aspects of children protection, survival and development. - Protection and assistance to children in difficult circumstances (disabled, street-children, the exploited and abused); Protect children during war situations. End child labour.	Para. 5g, 7, 8, 11, 20, 22, 23, 34iii		Para. 25.13a, 6.27iii	I.3,21,23,24,28, II.45,48, 50, 63	Princ. 11 Para 6.8/6.12	Para. 55, 39, 79

	WSC	UNCTAD VIII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
X. ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES International - (UN) Review of the adequacy of all United Nations institutions in meeting environment and development objectives			Para 24.9	I.11	(Chap.3)	(Para 94-100)
- International cooperation, coherence of policies, support to developing countries; coordination of UN/other assistance including in context of emergency assistance		4, 5	(Princ.18, 19, 26 Chap. 9/22, 33/37...)		(Chap.14. 16)	(Para 41, 94-100..)
National - Environmental impact analyses essential in the development and monitoring of programmes and policies (together with gender and social impact)		(38-44)	Para 24.8f Prin. 17	I11	(Chap.3..)	
- Action to change wasteful consumption and production patterns and demographic dynamics, to prevent degradation of the environment.	Para. 27	40	Para 4.1-4.27 Princ. 8	I.11	Princ.6 Para 3.9 3.29-32	Para. 10c
-Mechanisms and market signals to protect the environment		119, 121, 29	Princ. 16 Para 2.13/14 4.24/25..	I.11		Para. 3i
- Review arrangements to deal with disasters - Measures to enable disaster-prone countries to mitigate the impact of disasters (pre-disaster planning and post-disaster reconstruction)	Para. 34vi	40	Para 7.58/ 7.62			Para. 41
- National sustainable development strategies encompassing economic, social, environment and population			Princ.4 Para 5.1-5.5 14.9 33.20 Chap.6, 7..	I.11	Para 3.5-3.32 7.9 Chap.9	
Developed Countries: - Take lead to change consumption and production patterns, support to developing countries		40	Para 4.8b			

	WSC	UNCTAD VIII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
Developing Countries: - Soil erosion, desertification, urbanization, interrelationships between poverty, population and environment		40	Chap.12 Para 4.8c	I.11		
XI. AFRICA AND SPECIAL CATEGORIES (All the above issues apply to Africa, LLDCs,SMIDS, land-locked countries and other special categories. More specific attention may given to following issues in this table:) International - Long-term international support for developing countries, including Africa, land-locked and small island countries for development, food security, democratisation..	32	218	Para 17.128- 132..	I.12,25,35 I.9,35 II.66-69	Para 13.12 13.16	C. 1l, C. 7 Para. 9k, 10, 11, 17g, 29 88...
- Full implementation of the Programme of Action for developing countries and UN-NADAF		216		I.35		Para 11..
- Durable solution to external debt problem of developing countries, especially Africa, support innovative measures.	P.30	220	Para 2.28/2.30 33.14e	I.12,35 II.2		C. 9o C. 7c Para. 90a
- Respect of ODA target for developing countries and LDCs		108	Para 33.13..		Para 14.11	C.9l Para. 11h 88b
- Support to developing countries, particularly African efforts towards trade diversification, and enhanced participation in international trading system - Prevent negative effect of Uruguay Round trade negotiations on Africa and developing countries		220e, 125	Para 2.9, 2.16	II.2		Para. 11dg 88l
National - Ratification of United Nations Convention on Desertification; support African countries' effort in implementation of the Convention			Para 12.35/54			C. 7f

	WSC	UNCTAD VIII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
XII. PARTICIPATION, DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, ACCOUNTABILITY AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH MAJOR GROUPS - Participation, partnership with major groups and non-governmental organizations	Para. 34iv	27, 38-44	Princ.10, Princ.21.. Chap.23-32..	I.13,15,20, 23,26,38,3 9 II.52,53,73	Chap 13, 15 Para 1.14 3.30...	Comm 1c... Para 7.8, 100....
- Human Rights (see references under above items: rights to development, rights of women, vulnerable groups...)	Para. 3, 8		see above (Para 3.7.b, 24.2.f, 24.4, 29.3, 29.4, ...	I.1-8,13, 15,20,26.2 9 II.1-8	Princ. 1, 2, 3...	Comm 1f Comm 4m-n...
- Accountability and transparency	(Para. 34)	21, 27-37	Princ.10 Para 2.37..	I.1-8,20 II.66-67 II74	Para 13.8/10..	Comm 1a-d Comm 4a Para 14-15...

TABLE II

Review of Existing Follow-up Mechanisms

	WSC	UNCTAD VIII	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
FOLLOW-UP MECHANISMS - Integrated follow-up efforts to major international conferences - Consolidated reporting systems					Para. 16.4, 16.13	Para. 94
ACTION AT NATIONAL LEVEL	- National programmes of action (NPAs) -(Governments) re-examine current policies, plans, budget and development assistance to ensure priority for children (P.34.ii,iii)	- Review of policies in inter-related areas of trade, investment, technology and services..	- (States) consider preparation of national reports -National plans for implementation of Agenda 21	- (States) to consider desirability of drawing up national action plan identifying steps for promotion of human rights (II.71) -Incorporate standard of human rights instruments in domestic legislation (II 83)	- (Govts) national strategies and projects on population and development as part of development planning -Establish national follow-up accountability and monitoring mechanisms (partnership with NGOs) - Regularly assess progress - Periodic national progress reports, in collaboration with NGOs	- Comprehensive cross-sectoral strategies by 1996 (national, regional, and international level) - Integrate social development goals in national development strategies and budget - Review impact of all policies on poverty, social integration, social development and employment
Enhanced research and data collection and dissemination on various aspects of sustainable development and to assist in monitoring of agendas	P.34v	Part.III, para 154...	Chap. 37, 38, 40...		Chap.11, 12...	Chap. 5..., Para 29, 99e

	WSC	UNCTAD VIII.	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
CTION AT NATIONAL LEVEL (Contin'd)	Coordination Role of UN Resident Coordinator System		Coordination -(Govts) National coordination structure for follow-up, with input from NGOs -Role of UN Resident Coordinator System		Coordination - UN Resident Coordinator System, country strategy note - Lead role of Govts in coordinating follow-up actions (18.7) - Working Groups established by interagency task force on ICPD implementation (to develop proposals for inter-agency country level coordination.	- National strategy for poverty reduction /eradication - Regular assessement of progress, possibly by national periodic reports Coordination - UN Resident Coordinator System
CTION AT REGIONAL LEVEL	-Plan to be an agenda of regional institutions (including regional, political and economic organizations) (35 (ii) -Agreements for mutual collaboration for implementation and monitoring to be developed (P.35.ii)	-Promote regional cooperation	-UN Regional Commissions and programmes, other regional organizations to review need to modify existing activities (38.30) Coordination -Regional Commission's role in coordinating regional and subregional activities of sectoral and other UN bodies.	-Strengthen and establish regional arrangements for promoting and protecting human rights - Human rights officer to regional UN offices	-Coordinate subregional and regional initiatives on Population and Development, by Regional Commissions and Organizations of the UN and others.	-(Govts) adopt mechanisms and measures necessary at regional and subregional level. -(Reg. Comms) biennial meeting to evaluate progress, adopt measures. Report to ECOSOC.

	WSC	UNCTAD VIII.	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
INTERGOVERNMENTAL/ MONITORING MECHANISMS	-1993: Round Table on Keeping the Promises to Children, convened by S-G. (Endorsed mid-decade targets). - 1994, UNICEF Executive Board: invited review by all countries of National Programme of Action -Mid-1994: country and regional review of UNICEF field representatives on progress to meet children goals -UNICEF, UNFPA and UNSO guidelines for tools to monitor progress towards goals.	- Trade and Development Board to make the arrangements for ensuring implementation, monitoring and review (60). UNCTAD modified intergovernmental structure: - Trade and Development Board addresses topics of: -interdependence and international implications of macro-economic policies and issues. Also reviews implementation of Programme for developing countries. - Reviews work programmes and priorities of UNCTAD to adapt to changing circumstances. Has committees on poverty alleviation, commodities, economic cooperation among developing countries (also on restrictive business practices, services, and trading opportunities in new international trade context (70) -Board carried midterm review and evaluation of work programme (June 94, para. 88). Established Ad Hoc Working group on inter alia Trade, environment and development, and on role of enterprises in development.	GA: Special Session in 1997 for overall review and appraisal of Agenda 21 (38.9) ECOSOC: - System-wide coordination. - Also recommendations on integration of environment and development aspects in all UN policies and programmes. - Regular reports from agencies, regular review of work of CSD and system-wide activity (38.10) Commission on Sustainable Development: - Monitors progress in implementation of Agenda 21; of environment conventions - Consider information provided by Governments, inputs from NGOs - Monitors progress towards ODA target - Reviews adequacy of funding arrangements - Makes recommendations to General Assembly (Participation of major groups) (38.11-14) (GA 47/191) - 1997 session: overall review and appraisal, to prepare for GA special session	- GA, Commission on Human Rights, other organs and agencies of the UN in Human Rights to consider ways and means for full implementation, including a UN decade (II.99) - Commission on Human Rights: annual review of progress II.99 - SG to invite reporting by all States and UN on implementation, for 50th UN anniversary. Report to go to GA II.100 - Coordination of reporting under Human Rights Convention - II 87	- Three-tiered intergovernmental mechanisms (GA 49/128): GA: - Policy formulation) - Regular review of implementation (18.21)] ECOSOC: - (Role in assisting GA in promoting an integrated approach, in overall guidance and coordination) - System-wide coordination and guidance Population and Development Commission - Assists ECOSOC in: monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation; establish coherent reporting system on population and development. - Regular reports from the agencies on implementation (18.23)	GA: - Special session in 2000: overall review and appraisal (C.10.g) - Special Agenda Item for follow-up. - 1998: review of implementation for Int.Year on Poverty, possible Decade. ECOSOC: - Review and assess progress based on: reports from Govts, regional and functional commissions, and specialized agencies. - Report to GA - Coordinate system-wide activity - Review ways to strengthen Commission on Social Development - Establish coherent reporting system in social development

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	WSC	UNCTAD	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
INTERAGENCY ACTION, ACTION BY THE UN SYSTEM	-All international development agencies to examine how they can contribute to plan of Action, and report periodically (P.35.ii) -Full cooperation and collaboration of UN and other international institutions in ensuring achievement of objectives of national plans (P.35.iii) - Activities of UNICEF + - UNFPA, ILO, World Bank, UNSO-WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF (indicators) - UNDP, ILO World Bank	-(UN) Institutional adaptation and revitalization of UNCTAD to integrate sustainable development concept.	- UN Agencies, organizations and programmes: concrete programmes for implementation of Agenda 21, and provide guidance to UN and Govts (38.8)	- Promotion and protection of human rights to be considered a priority objective of the UN (I.34) - Enhanced UN activities (I.4; I.30, II.4; II.8, II.25-27, II.37-40, II.66-70, II.96); - Adaptation and strengthening of the UN machinery (II.8, 17/18..),	-All UN organizations to adjust and strengthen activities and programmes to implement ICPD Programme of Action. Intergovernmental bodies to provide guidance	-UN organs to strengthen and adjust their activities to take into account follow-up of Summit.(96.b) - To support LDCs to implement programme of Action. -Regular reports by funds, programmes, agencies on implementation (96.d)

	WSC	UNCTAD	UNCED	HR	ICPD	WSSD
COORDINATION WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM	· Joint Committee on Health WHO/UNICEF (95 review) · Joint UNESCO/UNICEF Committee on Education		· (ECOSOC) -Effective monitoring, coordination and supervision of UN activities, under SG, through ACC (38.16-17) · Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development established by ACC (for coordinated system-wide response to Agenda 21). Brings agencies together System of task managers · Cooperation UN bodies/international financial institutions essential: ACC, but also -IFAD and IFI to be associated with deliberation of intergovernmental follow-up institution. regional, national levels · High level Advisory Board on Sustainable Development	· UN High Commissioner for Human Rights: system-wide Coordination, adaptation of UN human rights machinery · HR Conference: Need for enhanced coordination of various bodies, mechanisms, procedures and of reporting requirements (I.1; II.2, II.87/88, II.95) · States Parties, GA, ECOSOC to study human rights treaty bodies, mechanisms and procedures to enhance efficiency and effectiveness (II.88)	· GA.49, ECOSOC 95 to Review roles and mandates on comparative advantages of UN organs -SG to review, with UN bodies, financial institutions, bilateral aid institutions requirements for international assistance -Inter-agency Task Force on the implementation of the ICPD Programme (mat Dec.94). To develop a system-wide coordinated approach. Focus on country level. Upon ACC request, works on common framework for UN follow-up to ICPD and will submit its report to ACC through CCPOQ. Population and Development Commission asked that it be permanently established.	-(Govts) instruct their representatives to UN, multilateral banks, int. development agencies to enlist support of those institutions for progress in attaining Summit's goals. -Cooperation UN/WTO in economic and social field (98) -See ECOSOC role -ACC to consider how participating entities should best coordinate their activities to implement Summit outcome -(UN and Bretton Woods institutions) regular/substantive dialogue (C10.c) for coordination in social development.

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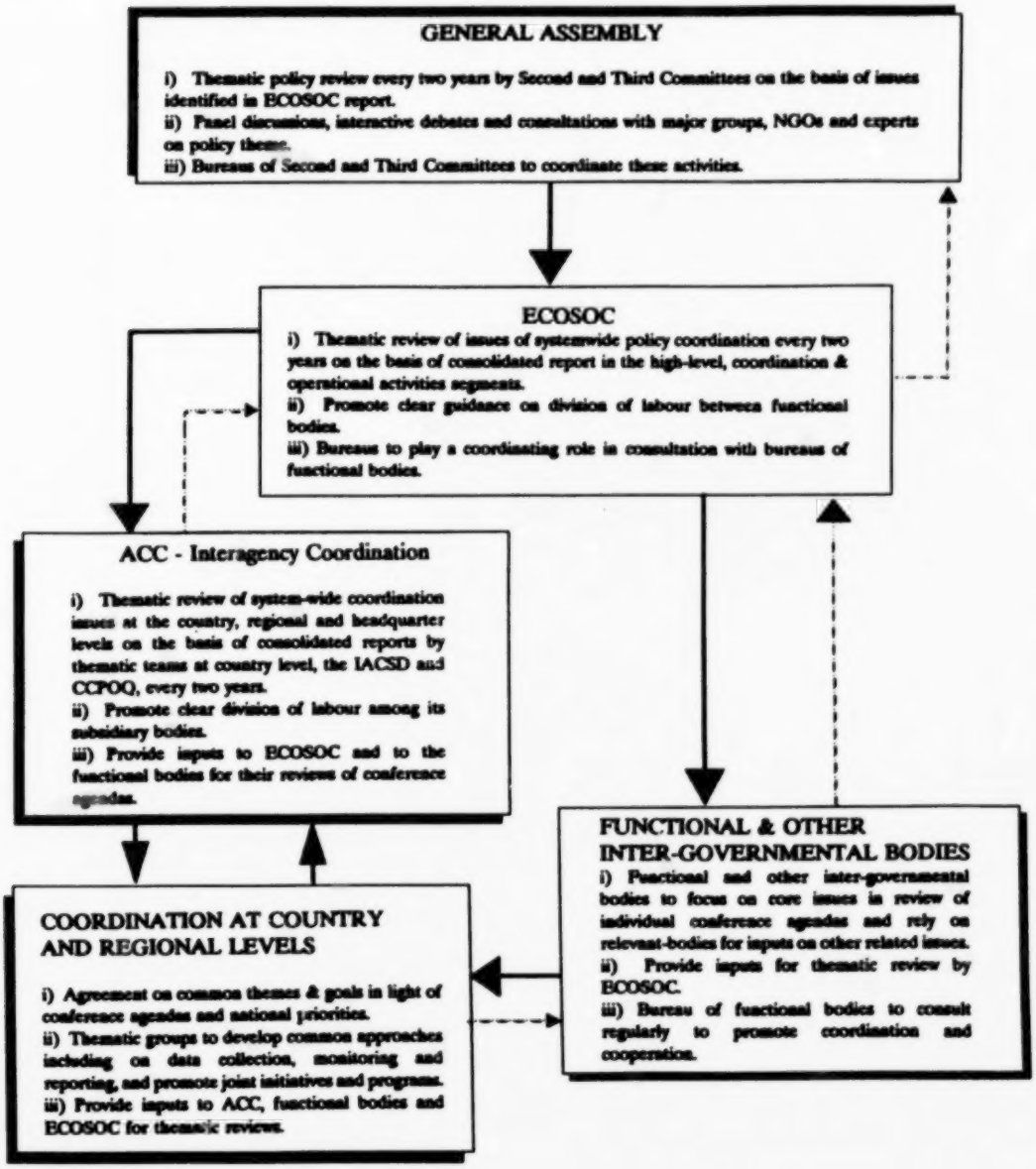
TABLE III

Coordinated Review of Progress in the Implementation of Conference Agendas


GENERAL ASSEMBLY
i) Thematic policy review every two years by Second and Third Committees on the basis of issues identified in ECOSOC report.
ii) Panel discussions, interactive debates and consultations with major groups, NGOs and experts on policy theme.
iii) Bureaus of Second and Third Committees to coordinate these activities.
ECOSOC
i) Thematic review of issues of systemwide policy coordination every two years on the basis of consolidated report in the high-level, coordination & operational activities segments.
ii) Promote clear guidance on division of labour between functional bodies.
iii) Bureaus to play a coordinating role in consultation with bureaus of functional bodies.
ACC - Interagency Coordination
i) Thematic review of system-wide coordination issues at the country, regional and headquarter levels on the basis of consolidated reports by thematic teams at country level, the IACSD and CCPOQ, every two years.
ii) Promote clear division of labour among its subsidiary bodies.
iii) Provide inputs to ECOSOC and to the functional bodies for their reviews of conference agendas.
FUNCTIONAL & OTHER INTER-GOVERNMENTAL BODIES
i) Functional and other inter-governmental bodies to focus on core issues in review of individual conference agendas and rely on relevant bodies for inputs on other related issues.
ii) Provide inputs for thematic review by ECOSOC.
iii) Bureau of functional bodies to consult regularly to promote coordination and cooperation.
COORDINATION AT COUNTRY AND REGIONAL LEVELS
i) Agreement on common themes & goals in light of conference agendas and national priorities.
ii) Thematic groups to develop common approaches including on data collection, monitoring and reporting, and promote joint initiatives and programs.
iii) Provide inputs to ACC, functional bodies and ECOSOC for thematic reviews.